assumption that rice is misising from the FCI godowns as published in Indian Express dated July 3, 1997 is due to discrepancies in stocks arising out of differences in reporting methods adopted by the Ministry of Food & Consumer Affairs & the FCI. However, the discrepancies are being reconciled.

(b) and (c) Yes, Sir. Government have ordered a special audit of foodgrains in the Central Pool by the Comptroller and Auditor General of India. The audit report is awaited.

Irregularities for domestic sale of wheat by FCI in Punjab and Haryana

2048. SYED SIBTEY RAZI: Will the Minister of FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether some irregularities for domestic sale of wheat by the Food Corporation of India have been reported in Punjab and Haryana in recent past;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the action taken against concerned officials involved in these irregularities;

(c) whether Government proopse to amend the existing rules to ensure such irregularities are not repeated in future;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS (SHRI RAGHUBANS PRASAD SINGH): (a) Yes Sir. Some irregularities for domestic sale of wheat by FCI were reported in Haryana only.

(b) Details of the complaints with regard to irregularities allegedly committed by the employees of the FCI in the open sale of wheat and the action taken against the concerned officials involved in these irregularities are given in the Annexure. (*See* Appendix 181, Annexure No. 53).

(c) to (e) The policy of the sale of wheat in the open market is reviewed from time to time. Sale of wheat in the open market by FCI has been discontinued with effect from 1st April, 97. Therefore the question of amending the existing rules does not arise.

मध्य प्रदेश में समर्थन मूल्य पर खाद्यान्नों की खरीद

2049. **श्री राघवजी :** क्या खाद्य और उपभोक्ता मामले मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) वर्ष 1996-97 तथा 1997-98 के दौरान मध्य प्रदेश के किन-किन जिलों में समर्थन मूल्य पर कितना-कितना गेहूं, सोयाबीन और चना खरीदा गया ;

(ख) क्या सरकार को इस बात की जानकारी है कि वर्ष 1997 के दौरान मध्य प्रदेश में विदिशा, गंजबासौदा, सिहोर, शुजालपुर आदि मंडियों में गेहूं विक्रय समर्थन मूल्य से कम दामों पर बिका है; और

(ग) यदि हां, तो उक्त मंडियों में समर्थन मूल्य पर गेहूं खरीदने में सहकारी एजेंसियों द्वारा तत्परता न दिखाए जाने के क्या कारण हैं ?

खाद्य तथा उपभोक्ता मामलों के राज्य मंत्री (श्री रघुवंश प्रसाद सिंह) : (क) रबी विपणन मौसम 1996-97 और 1997-98 ; मूल्य समर्थन योजना के अधीन मध्य प्रदेश में निम्नलिखित मात्रा में गेहूं की वसूली की गई है :

	मात्रा टन
1996-97	4,448
1997-98	1,07,578